

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
EPA New England  
One Congress Street, Suite 1100  
Boston, MA 02114-2023**

July 17, 2006

To: J. Kilborn, EPA  
H. Inglis, EPA  
R. Howell, EPA (w/o attachments)  
D. Moore, USACE  
K.C. Mitkevicius, USACE  
S. Steenstrup, MA DEP (2 copies)  
R. Bell, Esquire, MA DEP  
S. Peterson, CT DEP  
A. Silfer, GE  
J. Novotny, GE  
J.R. Bieke, Esquire, Shea & Gardner  
S. Messur, BBL  
D. Young, MA EOEA  
K. Munney, US Fish and Wildlife  
D. Mauro, META Environmental, Inc.  
R. Nasman, The Berkshire Gas Company  
Mayor Ruberto, City of Pittsfield  
Commissioner of Public Works and Utilities, City of Pittsfield  
Public Information Repositories

RE: June Monthly Report  
1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action  
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site

Enclosed please find the June 2006 Monthly Report for the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action. In accordance with the Consent Decree for the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is performing the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action, with General Electric funding a portion of the project through a cost sharing formula.

The EPA has entered into an agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to assist in the design and construction of the Removal Action. The USACE subsequently awarded a design-construct contract to Weston Solutions, Inc. (Weston). Weston, with several subcontractors, will be performing the design and construction activities for the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (413) 236-0969.

Sincerely,



Dean Tagliaferro  
1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action Project Manager

## **1. Overview**

During June 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the USACE's contractor, Weston Solutions, Inc., and Weston's subcontractors continued remediation and restoration activities on the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action. The work included restoration activities on Parcels I8-10-2 and I8-10-3. Activities associated with restoration of the parking lot on Parcel I8-24-1 were completed. Hydro-seeding on Parcels I8-24-1, I9-4-14 and I9-4-19 was completed. The installation of a sidewalk and final grading on Parcel I7-2-1 was completed. Restoration activities on Parcel I7-3-1 were completed. The restoration activities on Parcels I8-24-5 and I9-4-25 were initiated. The removal of the access road and installation of topsoil on the east riverbank in Phase 3C on Parcels I6-1-67 and I6-1-66 was completed. Also, the riverbank planting in Phase 3C continued and the upland planting was initiated on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67, I6-1-68 and I6-1-69. In addition, transfer of non-TSCA materials from the stockpile management areas to approved off-site facilities was performed.

## **2. Chronological description of tasks performed**

Refer to Figure 1 (2 maps) for an orientation of the 1.5 Mile Reach Removal Action.

By the end of May, activities associated with the restoration of Parcels I8-10-2 and I8-10-3 were initiated. First, the parking curbs were removed from the temporary parking lot on Parcel I8-10-3, then the parking lot was re-graded. Next, the temporary site security fence was removed. During the month of June, the restoration of Parcels I8-10-2 and I8-10-3 was completed. A new permanent fence was installed along the riverbank of the two parcels. Installation and grading of topsoil was completed, asphalt curbing was then installed and the area was seeded. Lastly guard railing was installed.

Also, by the end of May, the restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-1 were initiated. The topsoil was installed in the areas where the access road/staging area was removed and planting of the 75 large trees within the parcel was then completed. During the month of June, the restoration of Parcel I8-24-1 continued. The area where the topsoil was installed was york-raked and hydro-seeded. New permanent fencing was installed around the property. Activities associated with re-paving of the parking lot and the installation of a new sidewalk and a granite curb were completed. Pea stone was installed around the newly paved parking lot areas. Material generated during the restoration of the parking lot was transported to the Area 64D north staging area. The striping of the parking lot will be done at a later date.

Also, during the month of June, activities associated with the removal of the old WTS pad on Parcel I8-23-6 continued. First, EPA informed GE that the analytical data for the sand material generated during the removal of the old WTS pad on Parcel I8-23-6 met the standards for unrestricted re-use as clean fill. EPA offered the material to GE for re-use as clean fill on the GE

facility and GE accepted. The transfer of the sand materials from Parcel I8-23-6 to an area south of Building 73 located on GE property was performed on June 26, 2006. Once the sand material was transported, the removal of the sub-grade material that was underneath the sand stockpile was completed. The sub-grade material was then transported to Area 64D south stockpile management area. This material is slated for off-site disposal.

Hydro-seeding on Parcels I9-4-14 and I9-4-19 in the areas where there will be no additional excavation preformed by GE was completed.

Restoration activities on Parcel I7-3-1 were completed. First, the damaged sidewalk and the curb at the entrance to the parcel located on the corner of Pomeroy Avenue and High Street was removed. The areas that were utilized as access road were then re-graded and topsoil was placed to return the area to its pre-construction grade. The area where the topsoil was placed was seeded and biodegradable coconut mats were installed. Next, the entrance area was repaved and the asphalt curbing was repaired. Fencing was then installed around the entrance area.

Final restoration activities on Parcel I7-2-1 were initiated. First, the temporary site security fence was removed. Next, the final grading of the areas that were utilized as an access road was completed and topsoil was placed to return the area to its pre-construction grade. Then, the sidewalk was installed. Lastly, the areas were seeded and covered with biodegradable coconut mats. The concrete curbing will be installed at a later date.

Restoration activities on Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203 continued. First, 3 to 6 inches of material was removed to prepare for the placement of black stone driveway mix. The removed material was transported to Area 64D south stockpile management area. This material is slated for off-site disposal. Next, the installation of the black stone driveway mix on Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203 was initiated. The completion of placing the driveway mix and installation of permanent fencing is scheduled for July 2006.

Final restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5 were initiated. First, 2 to 6 inches of native material was removed to prepare the area for paving. The removed material was transported to Area 64D north stockpile management area. This material is slated for off-site disposal. Next, dense grade material was placed within the area and rough graded in preparation for paving. Final grading, paving and fencing on Parcel I8-24-5 will be done in July 2006.

Final restoration activities were initiated in Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-67, I6-1-68 and I6-1-69. GE contractors performed activities associated with the removal of the access road located to the east riverbank Parcels I6-1-66 and I6-1-67 as part of the GE Floodplain Remediation activities. Topsoil was placed to restore the area to pre-construction grade. Site security fencing on Parcels I6-1-66, I6-1-68 and I6-1-69 was removed. The installation of the 4-foot galvanized fence along the top of the riverbank on Parcels I6-1-69 and I6-1-68 was completed. Activities associated with repairs to a driveway and installation of an extra gravel parking space adjacent to the garage located on Parcel I6-1-68 was completed.

GE contractors removed the access road and staging area material from Parcels I6-1-62, I6-1-103, I6-1-104 and I6-1-106 as part of their GE Floodplain Remediation activities. The areas

were restored with topsoil and were seeded with herbaceous seed mix. The planting of trees and shrubs on the parcels will be performed in fall 2006.

During the month of June, the 2006 spring/summer planting activities continued. The riverbank planting on the east riverbank within the areas of the old temporary dam trash racks and on the first 2 properties (Parcels I6-1-69 and I6-1-68) downstream of Pomeroy Bridge in Phase 3C were completed. The planting of the hemlocks and decorative shrubs on Parcels I6-1-69 and I6-1-68 was initiated. Also, the upland planting and the riverbank planting on Parcels I6-1-66 and I6-1-67 was initiated. In addition, the replacement of shrubs in Phase 2 (near the High Street and Caledonia intersection) that were washed away during the October 2005 flood was completed.

Also, the 2006 spring semi-annual restoration inspection and meander survey was completed. During the survey three permanent monitoring plots were established on each riverbank within each of the three 1.5 mile remediation reaches. These eighteen permanent plots were hard surveyed and will be used in the future for semi-annual restoration monitoring events.

The invasive species control spraying of the Japanese knotweed within the 1.5 mile remediation reaches was completed.

The temporary site security fence was removed from Parcels I7-2-20.

Other miscellaneous activities performed during the month of June included the decontamination of bin blocks and the jersey barriers. Maintenance to the silt fencing throughout the 1.5 mile remediation area continued. The offsite transportation of the sheetpile and the jersey barriers was initiated.

Activities associated with consolidating materials within Area 64 stockpile management area were completed. All dense grade materials that are slated for re-use as clean fill on the GE facility were consolidated into three stockpiles in Area 64A south, Area 64A north and Area 64B south.

EPA informed GE and PEDA that the dense grade material analytical data met the standards for re-use as clean fill. EPA offered the material to GE for re-use as clean fill on the GE facility. GE requested some of the dense grade for the construction of an access road within the Hill 78 OPCA. The transfer of the dense grade materials from Area 64A north stockpile management area to the Hill 78 OPCA was performed on June 01, 2006.

The non-TSCA materials from the Area 64C, Area 64B and Area 64E stockpile management areas were transported to the Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. from June 01, 2006 to June 13, 2006. (See Table 1 for a summary of material transported to the Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. during the month of June 2006).

Also, the non-TSCA site clean up debris materials from the Area 64C stockpile management area were transported to the Seneca Meadows Landfill, Waterloo, N.Y. on June 12, 2006 and June 13, 2006. (See Table 2 for a summary of material transported to the Seneca Meadows Landfill, Waterloo, N.Y. during the month of June 2006).

During the month of June 2006, one post-removal off-site disposal characterization sample was collected from the sub-grade material (stockpiled in Area 64E front).

Also, geotechnical samples were collected from the post removal dense grade material stockpiled in Area 64A, Area 64B and Area 64E. The results of the geotechnical testing are not included in the monthly report but are contained in other submittals and are available upon request.

Vibration monitoring was re-started on Parcel I8-24-5 in the Transition Phase, with anticipation of restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5.

Stockpile management area activities continued throughout the month of June.

Traffic control was conducted on as-needed basis on Elm Street and Pomeroy Avenue during the month of June.

### **3. Sampling/test results received**

Table 3 contains the post-removal off-site disposal characterization sample results for the sub-grade materials (stockpiled in Area 64E front).

### **4. Diagrams associated with the tasks performed**

Figure 1 (2 maps) includes the layout of all excavation cells, vibration monitoring locations, access road locations, excavation load-out locations, staging area locations, fence line location, the water treatment system pad locations and the floating river barge crossing.

### **5. Reports received and prepared**

During the month of June 2006, Weston prepared a vibration monitoring summary report for the month of May 2006. During the month of May 2006, vibration monitoring continued to be performed on the sewer siphon structure located at the Fred Garner Park. The monitoring on the sewer siphon structure was discontinued on May 2, 2006 due to minimal construction activities within the 200-foot radius of the structure. In addition, vibration monitoring continued on Parcel I8-24-5 in the Transition Phase, during the restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5 and the surrounding areas. Both units were set up to collect data on the continuous seismic mode. Activities occurring near the monitoring locations during this period included normal background activities, demobilization of equipment, the removal and restoration of access roads and staging areas, and general construction activities. All of the ground vibrations measured

were less than the action level in the project specifications of 1.0 PPV (for structures with concrete foundations) except for one exceedance on Parcel I8-24-5. The exceedance was a single one-minute interval and was not indicative of construction activities. The exceedance was caused by human interference when the vibration monitor enclosure was moved by construction workers who were working in the area and it was Weston's opinion that no action be taken.

During the month of June, vibration monitoring was re-started on Parcel I8-24-5 in the Transition Phase, with anticipation of restoration activities on Parcel I8-24-5. However, the report for June 2006 has not yet been prepared.

## **6. Photo documentation of activities performed**

See attached photos.

## **7. Brief description of work to be performed in July 2006**

- Continue the removal of the access roads and staging areas on Fred Garner Park.
- Complete the riverbank planting activities on the east riverbank on the first four properties downstream of Pomeroy Bridge in Phase 3C.
- Complete planting activities in the upland plating areas on the first four properties adjacent to the east riverbank, downstream of Pomeroy Bridge in Phase 3C.
- Complete all other restoration activities on the first four properties adjacent to the east riverbank, downstream of Pomeroy Bridge in Phase 3C, Parcels I6-69, I6-1-68, I6-1-67 and I6-1-66 (fencing and hydro-seeding).
- Complete the restoration activities on Parcels I9-4-25 and I9-4-203 (installation of black stone driveway mix and fencing).
- Complete Restoration Activities on Parcel I8-24-5 (paving and fencing).
- Complete restoration activities on Parcel I7-2-1(curb installation and topsoil placement).
- Complete the parking lot striping on Parcel I8-24-1.
- Initiate the restoration activities in Fred Garner Park.
- Initiate the restoration activities on Parcel I9-4-201.

- Remove the floating river barge crossing in Phase 3C.
- Continue to transfer non-TSCA materials from the stockpile management areas to approved off-site facilities.
- Continue stockpile management activities at Area 64.
- Continue with miscellaneous demobilization activities such as decontamination and demobilization of jersey barriers and concrete bin blocks.

## **8. ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REPORT**

Table 1. Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transferred to Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H. during the month of June

Table 2. Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transferred to Seneca Meadows Landfill, Waterloo, N.Y. during the month of June

Table 3. Post-Removal Access Sub-Grade Debris Stockpile Characterization Analytical Results

Figure 1- 1.5 Mile Removal Action Site Map (2 maps)

Photodocumentation

**Table 1 - Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transported to Waste Management of New Hampshire-TREE, Rochester, N.H.**  
**During the Month of June**  
**June 2006 Monthly Report**

**GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action**  
**Pittsfield, MA**

**(Results are reported in tons)**

Date Shipped	Doc. Number	Stockpile Area	Net Weight (Tons) (1)
06/01/06	1517WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.47
06/01/06	1518WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.55
06/01/06	1519WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.20
06/01/06	1520WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.04
06/01/06	1521WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.13
06/01/06	1522WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	33.18
06/01/06	1523WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.95
06/01/06	1524WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	33.19
06/01/06	1525WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.29
06/01/06	1526WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	30.42
06/01/06	1527WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.94
06/01/06	1528WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.59
06/01/06	1529WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	30.59
06/01/06	1530WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.36
06/01/06	1531WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	30.32
06/02/06	1532WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	29.08
06/02/06	1533WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.23
06/02/06	1534WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.01
06/02/06	1535WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.95
06/02/06	1536WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.61
06/02/06	1537WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.80
06/02/06	1538WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.27
06/02/06	1539WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.95
06/02/06	1540WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.17
06/02/06	1541WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.61
06/02/06	1542WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	33.86
06/05/06	1543WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.13
06/05/06	1544WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.49
06/05/06	1545WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.95
06/05/06	1546WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	33.10
06/05/06	1547WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	31.68
06/05/06	1548WMNH	sub-grade Area 64C south	32.31
06/05/06	1549WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.12
06/05/06	1550WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	31.30
06/05/06	1551WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.75
06/05/06	1552WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	33.57

Date Shipped	Doc. Number	Stockpile Area	Net Weight (Tons) (1)
06/05/06	1553WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	33.66
06/05/06	1554WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	33.67
06/05/06	1555WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	29.16
06/06/06	1556WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	31.01
06/06/06	1557WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.96
06/06/06	1558WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.31
06/06/06	1559WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	31.32
06/06/06	1560WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	30.11
06/06/06	1561WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.71
06/06/06	1562WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.83
06/06/06	1563WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	32.39
06/06/06	1564WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	31.69
06/06/06	1565WMNH	sub-grade Area 64B north	33.88
06/06/06	1566WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	31.19
06/06/06	1567WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.87
06/06/06	1568WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.40
06/07/06	1569WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.40
06/07/06	1570WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	31.31
06/07/06	1571WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	30.53
06/08/06	1572WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	32.75
06/08/06	1573WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	31.10
06/08/06	1574WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.49
06/09/06	1575WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	32.24
06/09/06	1576WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.84
06/12/06	1577WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	31.24
06/13/06	1578WMNH	sub-grade Area 64E front	33.48
<b>Total of Material Disposed</b>			<b>1,985.70</b>

Notes:

(1) Net weights established at the disposal facility.

**Table 2 - Quantity of non-TSCA Material Transported to Seneca Meadows Landfill, Waterloo, N.Y.  
During the Month of June  
June 2006 Monthly Report**

**GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action  
Pittsfield, MA**

**(Results are reported in tons)**

Date Shipped	Doc. Number	Stockpile Area	Net Weight (Tons) (1)
06/12/06	0824SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	32.45
06/12/06	0825SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	30.66
06/12/06	0826SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	32.17
06/12/06	0827SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	33.64
06/12/06	0828SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	26.32
06/12/06	0829SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	32.58
06/13/06	0830SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	31.45
06/13/06	0831SM	Site Clean up, Area 64C north	31.45
<b>Total of Material Disposed</b>			<b>250.72</b>

**Notes:**

- (1) Net weights established at the disposal facility.

**Table 3 - Post-Removal Sub-Grade Material Stockpile Characterization**  
**Analytical Results**  
**June 2006 Monthly Report**  
**GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Project 1.5 Mile Removal Action**  
**Pittsfield, MA**

(Results are presented in part per million, ppm)

<b>Sample ID</b>	H2-OT000387-0-6U01
<b>Sample type</b>	stockpile material characterization
<b>Date Collected</b>	5/4/2006
<b>Stockpile Location</b>	Area 64E front
<b>Analyte</b>	
<b>PCBS</b>	
AROCOLOR-1260	1.5
PCB, TOTAL	1.5
<b>INORGANICS</b>	
PAINT FILTER LIQUIDS (ml)	ABSENT
PERCENT SOLIDS (%)	89.1%

Notes:

Only detected constituents are summarized

J - Indicates an estimated value

ND - not detected



**Photograph 1 – Overview of Restored Parcels I8-10-2 and I8-10-3**



**Photograph 2 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I8-24-1, Area York-Raked and Prepared for Hydro-seeding**



**Photograph 3 – Installation of the Sidewalk on Parcel I7-2-1**



**Photograph 4 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I7-3-1**



**Photograph 5 – Restoration Activities on Parcel I8-24-1**



**Photograph 6 - Overview of Completed Paving on Parcel I8-24-1**

### LEGEND

- Roads
- Surface Water
- Access Roads
- Asphalt Access Road
- Property Lines
- Site Security Fence Line
- Work Completed
- Vibration Monitoring Locations
- Buried Electric/Telephone Line\*

\*Note: As-built features were located using a real time GPS unit

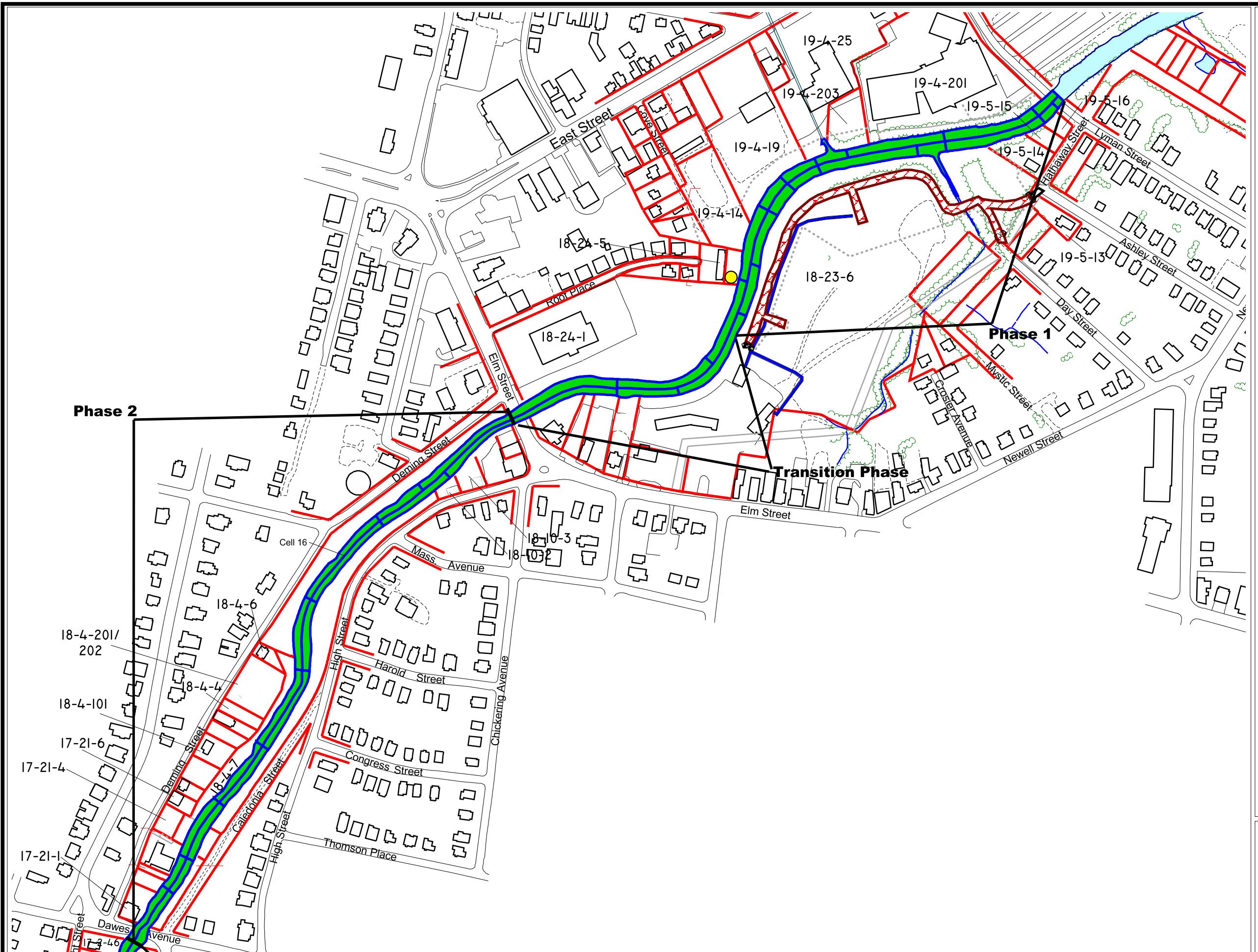


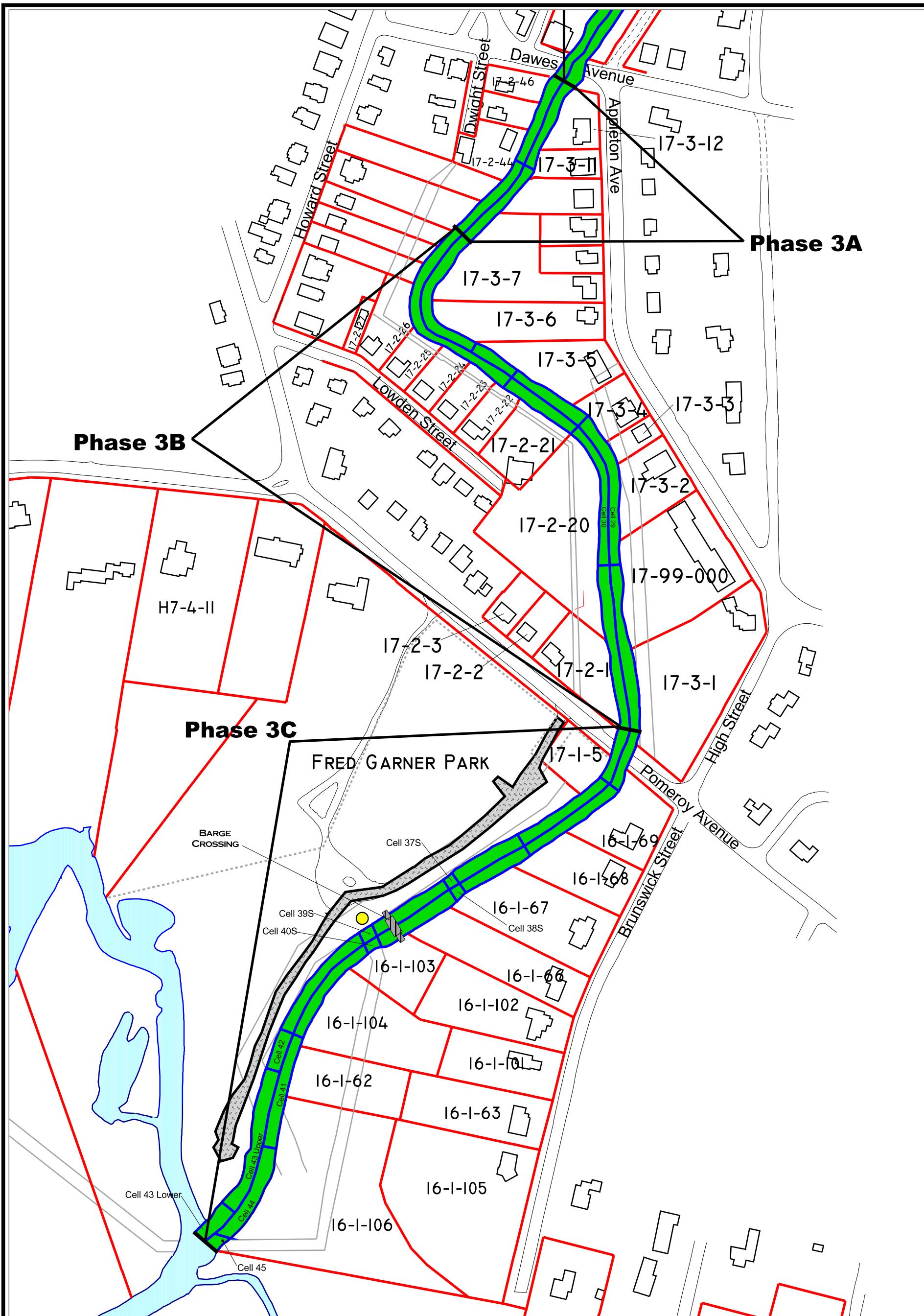
Scale in Feet

325 0 325

**WESTON**  
SOLUTIONS<sup>SM</sup>

**Figure 1**  
**1.5 Mile Removal Action**  
**Site Map (Map 1 of 2)**  
**June 2006 Monthly Report**





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## LEGEND

-  Surface Water
  -  Access/Staging Areas
  -  Property Lines
  -  Work Completed
  -  Site Security Fence line
  -  Roads
  -  Vibration Monitoring Locations

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Scale in Feet

A horizontal scale bar with tick marks at 100, 0, 100, and 200. The segment between 0 and 100 is shaded black.



**Figure 1  
1.5 Mile Removal Action  
Site Map (Map 2 of 2)  
June 2006 Monthly Report**